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Lithospermum hirtum, Lehm., is abundant on sand bluffs. Its showy yellow flowers are very fragrant. It might be a valuable acquisition to our gardens. *Shepherdia Canadensis*, Nutt., is abundant. *Salix viminalis*, L., occurs abundantly on a springy, clay bank near the harbor. *S. discolor*, Muhl., and *S. rostrata*, Rich., grow to a good size in clean sand. *Populus balsamifera*, L., var. *candicans* is native north of the harbor. This clump of low, stunted trees, is the remnant of a narrow belt about a mile in length which contained scattering specimens when the first settlements were made here thirty years ago.

Juniperus communis, L., and *J. Virginiana*, L., are common; and in the bluffs under evergreens, *Thuja occidentalis*, L., and *Taxus baccata* L., var. *Canadensis*, Gray.

Juncus Balticus, Willd., is abundant on the beach. *Calamagrostis longifolia*, Hook., and *Cenchrus tribuloides*, L., are uncommon. *Aspidium marginale*, Swartz., occurs on the bluffs. Specimens of most of the above are on hand for exchanges.—L. H. BAILEY, JR., South Haven, Mich.

FUNGI ON ANEMONE NEMOROSA.—I have found on living plants of *Anemone nemorosa*; *Synchytrium Anemones*, *Æcidium Anemones*, *Æ. Ranunculacearum*, *Puccinia Anemones*, *Peronospora pygmaea*, and *Urocystes pompholigodes*. I have sometimes found three of these on the same leaf. Is there any other plant that has an equal number of parasitic fungi?—E. W. H., Decorah, Iowa.

LA PHYTOGRAPHIE, by Alph. DeCandolle, 8 vo., 48 pp.—This is a work we would like to see translated into English for the benefit of our own botanists. Coming as it does from the most eminent European authority, from one whose whole life has been devoted to the description of plants, it is likely to become the authority upon Phytography, or the art of describing plants considered from almost every point of view. At first sight the subject appears to have to do with the form of botanical works alone, but the art of describing is based on that of observing, comparing and classifying. Phytography with respect to facts is a sort of garment, which it is necessary to know how to modify to suit the dimensions of an individual increasing in stature. Two old works have exerted a powerful influence on botanical writings, namely, the *Philosophia botanica* of Linnæus, and the *Théorie élémentaire de la botanique* of Augustine Pyramus DeCandolle. These works are separated from each other by more than sixty years, and now, again, after the lapse of more than sixty years, Alph. DeCandolle publishes this present work, in which are considered many questions that the progress of the science has suggested. The direction of the *Prodromus* and of the *Monographie Phanerogamarum* has peculiarly fitted the author for the work in hand, and he can speak upon this subject from a wider experience, probably, than any other botanist. The great prominence the author gives to works on descriptive botany, he says, is due to their neces-

sary duration. Works upon every other branch of botany are comparatively short-lived, being compelled to be re-written with every advance in knowledge. He refers to works on vegetable physiology and anatomy and says that the authors of even a few years ago are forgotten and their works consigned to obscure corners in botanical libraries. In vegetable physiology Hales and DeSaussure are rescued from their oblivion. In vegetable anatomy every improvement of the microscope has compelled much of the work to be done afresh. That which we describe by unaided vision always remains, but that which we see with the aid of processes of amplification must depend upon the nature of these processes, and some simple discovery of an optician may cause the abandonment of many excellent books. Descriptions of plants, however, are most enduring, and works containing them always will be consulted. Such books of even a century old or more are being constantly consulted, for the law of priority demands a great deal of hunting back in dusty records, where verification, if anywhere, demands clear description. Since the duration of descriptions is so great it is important that they should be well done. The anatomist and physiologist are fortunate enough to be able to fall into oblivion, but for the describer of forms and groups is reserved a much more serious fate. Like the Wandering Jew, he is condemned to live, and being of necessity consulted, if his work is badly done, he is open to the execrations of botanists century after century. The author then gives an exhortation which should be hung in illuminated text over the work-table of every botanist who attempts to describe a species: "Observe with care, describe with method, name and classify properly; your reputation, even your honor is at stake." Works on natural groups of plants are destined to absorb and summarize all other departments, for into the description of species, genera, families, etc., must enter, sooner or later, the anatomical characters, the physiological properties, the facts of habitation, origin, bibliography, etc. The author is disposed to think that we, in schools, are in danger of running too much, to anatomical dissections, avoiding the older paths of classification, and we do not know but that he is right. It can hardly be questioned that the mind is called into higher and more general action by the study of the basis of classification than by studying how to dissect and hunting for the thousandth part of a millimetre under a microscope. As De Candolle says, the former is a more efficient method of training for a general student, by teaching him observation, and the best means of observation is accurate description. The names of the species, the groups, the organs may all be forgotten, but the principles are not, and the same methods can be well applied in many other things.

The object of the present volume is the perfection of the methods of the description. There is a loud call for greater uniformity in all departments of natural history. There is no reason why the terms used in Phaenogamic and Cryptogamic botany should be so distinct that an adept in one may not understand the language of the other. There should be fixity in the names of organs, and in works on

anatomy there should be regular methods of description, such as have been so successfully employed in systematic botany. The progress of botany now, as of all sciences, is towards simplicity, as for instance, all the parts of plants, the most complicated, are reduced to root, stem, and leaves, and these in turn are but multiplied cells, proceeding from a plasma of uniform appearance. So methods of description should be reduced to like simplicity and comprehensiveness.

The author hopes that the progress of the science and in a very small degree the application of his own counsels may render useless in a few years the great part of the present volume. The last part of it, however, will be long consulted, for it is a grand list of herbariums that are of use in authenticating species. From this list can be learned just where at present are the herbariums of authors who have published and the famous collections of explorers. For this botanists will be very grateful for it will help in securing information that might not otherwise have been obtained.

ALBINO ARETHUSA BULBOSA.—Mr. Fred Hoard, of Providence, R. I., has just brought me a perfect albino of *Arethusa bulbosa*, L. The yellow lines of the labellum are retained.—W. W. BAILEY.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.—*Catalogue of North American Musci*. Eugene A. Rau and A. B. Harvey. This neat catalogue of over fifty pages is intended to furnish a check and exchange list, and also a basis for the arrangement of genera, etc., in herbaria. It undoubtedly supplies a want felt by many botanists, and will be received with thankfulness. The range is a large one, including all North America, every authentic species reported from Mexico to the Arctic region, appearing in the list. Of course, the species are all numbered to facilitate exchanges, and the numbers mount up pretty well, rising to 1,252, distributed among 177 genera.

Catalogue of Trees and Shrubs, native and introduced in the Horticultural Gardens adjacent to Horticultural Hall, Fairmount Park, Philadelphia. This catalogue contains a hundred pages and is a good one but no man's name appears as author and we will have to take it as an anonymous production. The catalogue seems to be made more for the convenience of gardeners and amateur botanists, than for professional botanists. A great deal of work has been done in the matter of synonyms and brief descriptions in the hope that the species may be recognized. Both genera and species are arranged in alphabetical order, and as the author acknowledges his sin in this matter, his reasons seem to be very good. It is a capital catalogue and does just what it professes to do, and we can imagine nothing more convenient in the hands of a botanist visiting Fairmount Park, or one desiring to know what was under cultivation there.

Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club, May.—The noticeable feature in this number is Mr. Davenport's description of a new fern accompanied by an excellent plate, drawn by Mr. C. E. Faxon. The new fern is *Notholaena Grayi*, and was collected among the mountains